

DECEMBER 2008 NEWSLETTER

Improving access to health care by Advancing innovative solutions through A public-private partnership

Great opportunities disguised as insoluble problems

The election is over. Excited winners now face limited resources to deliver on their campaign promises. Health care was on everyone's list of important campaign issues. And we all know that money is scarce -- with our economy slow and a crisis in our financial system.

Conversations about reforming health care should not automatically begin with "How do we find more money?" Our national health care spending is already twice that of every other developed country in the world.

Our many complex health care challenges seem overwhelming. It is difficult to know where to start. Yet public-private partnerships from across our country have begun to build collaborative efforts to look for ways to use what we already expect to spend and see if we can increase *value* for those dollars.

Access HealthColumbus and its public-private partners are leading these efforts in central Ohio. We believe that public-private partnerships, such as Access HealthColumbus, are by no means a substitute for state or national reform. However, we are working with our partners to test and evaluate local innovative solutions to the health care problems we are facing in our country.

Consider these two initiatives as a good place to start:

Patient-Centered Medical Homes

Not a physical place, but rather a physician-oriented *team* providing continuous and coordinated care, helping patients navigate our fractured, health care system. A few dozen communities have pilot projects testing and measuring the ability of coordinated care teams to deliver cost savings, better health outcomes and higher patient satisfaction. And they are seeing success. Central Ohio is joining these efforts. Access HealthColumbus is creating a demonstration project to test Patient-Centered Medical Homes in our community.

Electronic Health Records

Accurate health information shared by care professionals saves money, improves health outcomes and gives higher patient satisfaction. While some good efforts have begun, our community's efforts need coordination to make sure that all patients can move between our many excellent public and private health care providers. Access HealthColumbus is creating a demonstration project, with physicians and health systems, to develop an efficient method for sharing health information across systems of care in our community.

2008-2009 Portfolio of Activities

Innovations for broader population, including those most vulnerable	Innovations for those most vulnerable
Patient-Centered Medical Home Initiative	Immigrant Work Force Health Initiative
Electronic Health Records Initiative	Prescription Drug Initiative
	Primary Care Capacity Initiative
	Safety-Net Utilization Monitor
	Voluntary Care Network

To learn more, please visit our website at www.accesshealthcolumbus.org

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Health care *is* complex. The challenges *are* many. Each community *is* different. No one patient, physician, hospital or other health care provider is responsible for America's health care 'situation.'

Insoluble? We think not.

A wise person once said to look for "great opportunities disguised as insoluble problems." We look forward to working with our public-private partners on improving health care by advancing innovative solutions in our community.

We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Take care,



Jeffrey M. Biehl
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CONNECTING People and Ideas
*helping others advance their ideas
in the community*

Access HealthColumbus leadership helps organizations and individuals by hosting strategic discussions with stakeholders in the community. The tally below summarizes the number of requests we have hosted year to date.

Business	8
Government	8
Healthcare	18
Social Sector	12
Other communities & states	12
TOTAL	58

SUPPORTING the Work of Others
*contributing our leadership time
and knowledge*

- ◆ Central Ohio Regional Health Information Organization (RHIO) Steering Committee
- ◆ Franklin County Covering Kids & Families Coalition
- ◆ Ohio Family Coverage Coalition
- ◆ Ohio Health Information Partnership Advisory Board
- ◆ OhioHealth Physician Diversity Steering Committee
- ◆ United Way Individual & Families Impact Council

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KEY RESULTS TO DATE

**Key Results to Date
January 1, 2004 through October 31, 2008**

AT-A-GLANCE

# of people to be helped from expanded capacity of affordable primary care services	25,000
# of people helped from coordination of donated medical services	5,075
# of doctors participating	813
# of hospitals donating services from the local medical community	12
# of referrals coordinated for primary, specialty and diagnostic services	17,083
Reported patient no-show rate (studies of adult patients indicate that no-show rates of between 15% and 30% in community health centers are common)	5.5%
# of prescription drugs coordinated (one month supply)	99,345
# of transportation services coordinated (for health services)	9,245
# of medical interpretation for health services coordinated	606
# of eyewear prescriptions coordinated	3,863
Total value of services coordinated	\$37,730,624
# of people helped with acquisition of health insurance coverage	535

MAJOR FUNDING PROVIDED BY:



ADDITIONAL FUNDING PROVIDED BY:

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



IN-KIND SUPPORT PROVIDED BY:

800+ Voluntary Care Network Doctors





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 contributions are tax deductible and
 greatly appreciated!

Together, we are...
CONNECTING people & ideas
 and
COORDINATING the
 advancement of innovate
 solutions

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